

Cavalry Barracks
Fort Laramie, Wyoming

WYO-5

HABS
WYO
8-FOLA,
3C-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

220 VMS COPIES OF MATERIALS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Branch of Plans and Design, Region II
National Park Service
Omaha, Nebraska

HABS
WYO,
8-FOLA,
3C-

Cavalry Barracks
Fort Laramie, Wyoming

Custodian

National Park Service.

Date of Erection

The exact date of erection is unknown. The first positive indication of existence of the structure is to be found in Army records of 1879 when an estimate of materials for the construction of a veranda to new concrete quarters and a separate estimate for flooring the second story and shingling the roof was made. Photographs taken in 1876 indicate the existence of the main portion of the structure but possibly through lack of funds or due to its exceptional size it was impossible to complete the entire building before the late 1870's.

Builder

Engineering Department, U. S. Army.

Present Condition

This building is in only fair condition. The exterior walls have many cracks over the doors and windows and the plaster has fallen off in many places. Doors and windows are in bad condition due to weathering, dry rot and lack of paint. In many cases, the window sash and doors have been demolished and some doors re-made or original ones replaced. Former shutters on all windows have been removed. The porch is 25 percent destroyed and the remainder in very bad condition. A new shingle roof (except over porch) was put on in 1940. The chimneys are in bad condition with tops of some completely missing. A new concrete porch floor slab (first story) was added at the south end of building about 1910. Interior wall plaster is cracked very badly and in many cases has fallen off the walls. Ceilings were originally lathed and plastered but about 1900 were replaced with 3/8" x 6" matched and beaded ceiling throughout, except in large room at south end of building (second story) ceiling was re-placed with 3/8" x 4" matched and beaded ceiling. The wall paper in various rooms is dirty and torn. Floors in first story are badly worn except for approximately 25 percent at the south end of building, which was refloored in 1939. The entire second story floor is in fair condition, the large room at south end of building having been double re-floored and the remainder single re-floored about 1900. At this time all partitions on this floor were added.

HABS
WYO
8-FOLA,
3C-Number of Stories

Two stories with two-story front porch, entire length of building.

Material of Construction

The footings and exterior walls, approximately 20" and 18" thick, are of lime aggregate construction (lime, gravel and water mixed in desired proportions and poured in forms to set). Nailing blocks were put in where desired for trim, windows, etc.

The exterior walls are finished with white sand finish plaster approximately $3/4$ " thick.

The porch is entirely of frame construction, with 1" thick tongue and groove, $5\ 1/4$ " width face wood flooring, columns, beams, railing, etc. Roof sheathing 1" thick spaced apart and $4/2$ -16" wood shingles $4\ 1/2$ " to weather.

The main roof is entirely of frame construction with 1" sheathing and $4/2$ -16" wood shingles $5\ 1/2$ " to weather.

Windows are double hung, with divided sash. Exterior doors are four panel $1\ 3/4$ " thick and interior doors are four panel $1\ 3/8$ " thick.

Partitions are frame construction, wood lath and smooth finish plaster. Interior of exterior walls is wood lath and smooth sand finish plaster. Various partitions are papered. Ceilings were originally lathed and plastered as mentioned under caption "Present Condition" but about 1900 were re-placed with $3/8$ " x 4" and $3/8$ " x 6" matched and beaded ceiling.

Interior flooring is wood, 1" thick tongue and groove, with approximately $3\ 1/4$ " width face.

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